[8th August 1946

(c) how many of these schools belong to the panchayats and how many to the district board; and

(d) how much grant in money is paid to these panchayat schools?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

"(a) to (d) The information has been called for and will be placed on the table of the House when received."

Elementary education in the backward districts.

* 21 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether for the development of elementary education in the backward districts of the Province special grants were made for some years in the past;

(b) what the amounts of such grants districtwar during each year were;

(c) the number of schools started by each local body every year and what the present total number of schools and the strength districtwar are;

(d) whether it is proposed to continue the system of special grants;

(e) whether the sanction of dearness allowances to teachers employed in the schools was taken into account in fixing these grants;

(f) whether the amounts paid towards dearness allowances have resulted in deficits;

(g) whether the local bodies concerned have asked for increased grants to make up the deficits;

(h) whether the Government have ordered the closure of the newly started schools in order to balance the budget without making corresponding increase in the grants to make up the deficits;

(i) if the answer to (h) is in the affirmative, whether such efforts as have been made till now to promote elementary education have been practically rendered useless; and

(j) whether the Government have also been requiring local bodies to submit schemes for the expansion of elementary education as a measure of post-war development?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

"(a) The answer is in the affirmative. Seven district boards have been given special subsidy for the purpose.

"(b) The maximum subsidy sanctioned from provincial funds to each of the district boards is given below :—

Name of the district board.	For each of the years 1943-44 and 1944-45.	For 1945-6.
	RS.	RS.
Cuddapah	30,000	50,000
Chittoor	56,000	93,500
Kurnool	40,000	66,740
Bellary	38,000	63,400
Anantapur	44,000	73,400
Salem	1,35,000	2,25,260
East Godavari Agency District Board.	7,000	11,700

8th August 1946]

" The maximum amounts were paid in 1943–44 and the amounts paid in 1944–45 and 1945–46 were regulated with reference to the cost of the expansion schemes after deducting the savings in previous years.

" (c) Complete information is not available.

" (d) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (e) to (i) The whole matter is being re-examined by the Government with reference to representations made by the presidents, district boards of Ceded districts and Chittoor.

" (j) The answer is in the negative."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Education whether he is aware that as a result of the orders of Government asking the district boards to balance their budgets, more than 200 schools have been recently closed down in Anantapur district? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" That is the information which I have read in the newspapers this morning, and more than that Government have no information."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it not proper on the part of Government to ask these district boards to continue these schools without closing them down, when the matter is under consideration? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" The whole matter is under consideration, and I may tell for the information of the House that the presidents of the district boards and the Special Officer in charge of the District Board, Chittoor, waited on a deputation, and these matters were considered. Certain suggestions were given and are under the consideration of the Government."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it not more difficult to re-open the closed schools than to allow the schools to continue until the matter is finally settled? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" In fact that is one of the suggestions that are under consideration."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the information that I have conveyed to the Hon. Minister, will he issue instructions immediately to district boards not to close down the schools pending the decision of Government? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" It is not even one week, Sir, I speak subject to correction, since the district board presidents were here, and they were told that they could readjust the Compulsory Education Scheme to the already existing scheme instead of closing down the schools. After having communicated the suggestions in person, I do not think any purpose will be served by again writing to them."

[8th August 1946

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether it is a fact that while Government have been asking local bodies to submit schemes for the expansion of elementary education, they are at the same time, asking the local bodies to close down the schools that are already in existence? Does not the Hon. Minister see some inconsistency in the policy of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—
" The presumption of the hon. Member is incorrect. The answer to clause (j) is 'the answer is in the negative'."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that there is a Government circular to the district boards, which I have seen, asking them to prepare a scheme for the expansion of elementary education?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The present Government?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Yes, Sir, after the Minister has taken charge."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—
" I have nothing more to add to the information I have already given."

Admissions into Government Colleges in the Province.

* 22 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether selection committees have been constituted to regulate admission into Government Colleges in the Province;

(b) if the selection committees do not exist and if Principals have been empowered to make admissions, whether any specific instructions have been issued to regulate admissions either on grounds of merit or communities or both;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative what those instructions are;

(d) who is the authority competent to alter these instructions and scrutinise if they are being properly carried out; and

(e) whether the Government have under consideration any fresh proposals for regulating admissions into their Colleges?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—
" (a) There are at present no selection committees to regulate admission into Government colleges. The question is under consideration.

" (b) & (c) Copies[a] of G.Os. No. 1435, Education, dated 1st August 1940, No. 960, Education, dated 14th March 1942 and No. 997, Education, dated 22nd July 1946, are placed on the table.

" In connexion with admissions to the Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges in 1946–47, the Government directed that provisionally for this year, 20 per cent of the total number of seats should be filled by students selected on merit, and that 80 per cent should be regulated by the orders in the Government Orders referred to.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 248–249 infra.